

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A truck, comprising:

a body having a cab, an exterior cargo bed behind the cab, side walls on left and right sides of the exterior cargo bed to serve as boundaries of the exterior cargo bed, wherein the cargo bed has at least one elongated recess formed in the body, the recess being recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of a horizontal plane of the cargo bed; and

at least one tie-down track mounted on the body along the elongated recess such that a ~~mounting surface of the track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of a horizontal plane of the body and~~ a slotted surface of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the ~~body~~ cargo bed.

2. (Original) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the tie-down track is welded to the body.

3. (Currently Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

~~a body having a cab, an exterior cargo bed behind the cab, side walls on left and right sides of the exterior cargo bed to serve as boundaries of the exterior cargo bed on the left and right sides, and a tailgate at a rearward end of the exterior cargo bed;~~

~~at least one tie-down track, the tie-down track being integral with the body of the truck such that the exterior contour of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the contour of adjacent portions of the body; and~~

a fitting which can be slidably moved within the track and then fixed in position, the entire fitting being releasable from the track.

4. Cancelled.

5. (Previously Presented) A truck, comprising:

a body; and

at least one tie-down track mounted on the body such that a mounting surface of the track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of a horizontal plane of the body and a slotted surface of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the body,

wherein the body comprises a cargo bed and the track is mounted at a front of the cargo bed parallel to a rear end of a cab of the truck.

6. Cancelled.

7. (Currently Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 6 1, further comprising:

a second tie-down track in the exterior cargo bed, the second tie-down track mounted on the body such that ~~a mounting surface of the second tie-down track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of the horizontal plane of the body and~~ a slotted surface of the second tie-down track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the ~~body~~ cargo bed.

8. (Previously Presented) A truck, comprising:

a body; and

at least one tie-down track mounted on the body such that a mounting surface of the track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of a horizontal plane of the body and a slotted surface of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the body,

wherein the body comprises a cargo bed and the tie-down track is located in a side wall of the cargo bed parallel to a longitudinal direction of the truck.

9. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 8, further comprising:

a second tie-down track in a second side wall of the cargo bed, the second tie-down track mounted on the second side wall such that a mounting surface of the second tie-down track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of the horizontal plane of the body and a slotted surface of the second tie-down track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the body.

10. (Previously Presented) A truck, comprising:

a body; and

at least one tie-down track mounted on the body such that a mounting surface of the track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of a horizontal plane of the body and a slotted surface of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the body,

wherein the body comprises a tailgate and wherein the track is supported by the tailgate.

11. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface of the track does not extend more than 1/2 inch beyond the contour of the adjacent portions of the body.

12. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface of the track does not extend more than 1/4 inch beyond the contour of the adjacent portions of the body.

13. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface of the track does not extend more than 1/8 inch beyond the contour of the adjacent portions of the body.

14. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein an exterior contour of the track is flush with the adjacent portions of the body.

15. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface is flush with the adjacent portions of the body.

16. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a fitting which can be slidingly moved within the track and then fixed in position, the fitting including a tire cradle.

17. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a protective strip which fits into a slot in the slotted surface.

18. (Currently Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a cross member, securable to the at least one tie-down track, that runs in a direction perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the truck.

19. (Original) A truck as set forth in claim 18, further comprising a pulley arrangement supported by the cross member.

20. (Original) A truck as set forth in claim 18, wherein a longitudinal position of the cross member is adjustable.

21. (Original) A truck as set forth in claim 3, further comprising a cargo divider supported by said fitting.

22. (Original) A truck as set forth in claim 3, wherein the fitting is releasable from the track by twisting and then removing the fitting in a direction approximately perpendicular to the track.

23. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface has a slot opening in a vertical direction.

24. Cancelled.

25. (Currently Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the truck comprises a first tie-down track, a second tie-down track, and a third tie-down track; ~~each of the first, second, and third tie-down tracks being mounted on the body such that the mounting surface of the track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of the horizontal plane of the body and the slotted surface of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the body.~~

26. (Original) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the track has a cross-section of an industrial strut system.

27. Cancelled.

28. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface of the track does not extend more than 3/4 inch beyond the contour of the adjacent portions of the body.

29. (Original) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the tie-down track is connected to the body by bolts.

30. Cancelled.

31. (Previously Presented) A truck as set forth in claim 3, wherein the at least one tie-down track is mounted wholly external to the cab.